



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/554,232	10/24/2005	Yoshihiro Suzuki	1254-0296PUS1	7939
2292 7590 08/06/2010 BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747				
EXAMINER				
TANG, SON M				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2612				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
08/06/2010		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

**Supplemental
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/554,232

Examiner

SON M. TANG

Applicant(s)

SUZUKI ET AL.

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 6/10/2010.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-17,22,33,35-37,39 and 43.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |
|--|--|

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 4-17, 22, 33, 35-37, 39 and 43 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention is directed to an RFID tag with uniquely distinct features in each of the claims as follow:

Claim 1: A tag comprising a detachable portion A, having a first function in a state where said portion A remains attached and shift to second function when portion A is detached, wherein a tag portion B other than the detachable portion A comprises a first memory portion for storing data, first function is a function of writing data in a first memory region provided in a first memory portion, and the second function is a function of writing data in a second memory region other than said first memory region.

Claim 17: A tag comprising at least one physically detachable portion, wherein said detachable portion and a whole or part of a portion of the tag other than said detachable portion are mutually laminated in layers or wholes or parts of said detachable portions are mutually laminated in layers, or alternatively, wholes or parts of said portions laminated in layers are mutually laminated, wherein said detachable portion and the portion of the tag other than said detachable portion have respective memory regions in which data can be written and stored or from which data can be read individually.

Claim 22: A substrate having an electronic component mounted thereon to control an operation of a tag comprising at least one detachable portion A, having a first function in a state in which said portion A remains attached, and shifting to a second function different from said first function when said portion A is detached, said substrate comprising: at least one physically

detachable portion, wherein said electronic component includes at least: a first electronic circuit associated with an input/output interface portion which performs transmission and reception between itself and a reader/writer device for reading data from said tag or writing data in said tag; a second electronic circuit associated with a control portion which performs a control operation for reading data from said tag or writing data in said tag; and a third electronic circuit associated with a memory portion which stores therein said data, wherein said third electronic circuit comprises a plurality of physically separated memory circuits, and at least one of the plurality of memory circuits is mounted on said portion A, while at least one of the plurality of memory circuits is mounted on said portion B.

Claim 33: A tag having a single or plurality of physically detachable portions A, said tag comprising: an input/output interface portion for performing transmission/reception and modulation/demodulation of a data signal; a control portion for specifying a memory region in which data inputted from said input/output interface portion is to be written or a memory region from which data to be outputted to said input/output interface portion is read based on whether or not said portion A has been detached from a main body of the tag or on a position in the main body of the tag at which said detached portion A was located before detachment thereof; and a single or plurality of memory portions each having at least one memory region that has been specified, wherein at least one memory portion is present in said portion A or in each of said portions A, and at least one memory portion is present in a portion B of the tag other than said detachable portion or portions A.

Claim 39: An RFID tag comprising: at least a first detachable portion detachable from a remainder of the tag; and a second detachable portion detachable from a remainder of the tag

after detachment of the first detachable portion, wherein the tag has a first function in a state where said detachable first portion remains attached to the tag, said tag shifting to a second function different from said first function when said detachable first portion is detached from the remainder of the tag, and the tag shifts from said second function to a third function different from said first function and said second function when said detachable second portion is detached from the remainder of the tag.

The distinct features in combination with the manner of other limitations claimed. The closest prior arts, Gustafson [US 6,050,622] and Atherton [US 6,888,509] are disclosing similarly inventions except for the distinction features above. Therefore, either singularly or in combination, the prior art fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SON M. TANG whose telephone number is (571)272-2962. The examiner can normally be reached on 5/8.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Wu can be reached on (571)272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/S. M. T./
Examiner, Art Unit 2612

/Daniel Wu/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2612